

test scores continue to remain low. There still has been a wide achievement gap between Head Start kids and their more advantaged peers. We have a long ways to go.

Meanwhile, since 1996, funding for Head Start has nearly doubled in this Republican Congress. Do we think we can do better for these children? Yes. This is a modest attempt to improve a program.

The demonstration program in this bill is voluntary, I repeat, voluntary, on the part of eight States who want local control to try and do better. Why not? What could possibly be wrong with that?

The School Readiness Act of 2003 is a good bill and an improvement to the program.

□ 1015

FDA'S LOBBYING QUESTIONED

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in today's Roll Call, the Capitol Hill newspaper of record, there is an article, FDA's Lobbying Questioning. Let me read a couple of paragraphs:

"In a rare lobbying campaign by a Federal agency, the Food and Drug Administration has formed an unofficial alliance with the pharmaceutical industry to urge House Members to vote against a bill that could flood the Nation with cheap prescription drugs from Canada and overseas.

"The FDA's extraordinary moves to kill the bill" this article says, "and the informal lobbying partnership between a Federal regulator and an industry it oversees, has coming under fire from several Members who support this legislation."

Mr. Speaker, this may not be illegal, what the Food and Drug Administration has done, but it is certainly untoward, it is certainly unprecedented.

In my 11 years as a Member of Congress I have never seen a Federal agency use its civil servants to lobby Congress so directly and so brazenly; and what is particularly outrageous is that they are doing that against American consumers, against America's elderly, against people who need lower-priced prescription drugs. The drug industry's contributions to the Bush administration and to far too many people in this Chamber unfortunately might be paying off.

HELPING CONGRESS MAKE BETTER DECISIONS

(Mr. ISAKSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise quickly to make a couple of points. Sometimes we change legislation through impassioned speeches on the

floor of this House. Sometimes, in the quiet of committees, members offer amendments that make substantial changes in law. Sometimes you can make substantial change in our practices through change in the way we do business.

Yesterday, I introduced a change to the rules of House as a bill introduced in this House, which I would like to ask everybody to be a part of, that simply says this: Whenever a conference committee appropriates new moneys, expands a program or adds a program that was not incorporated within the House and Senate bills as they went through their normal procedure in this House, that those programs be delineated on the surface of that conference report, and that that conference report lie on the Members' desks for 24 hours before its vote.

When the sun shines in on the knowledge of last-minute appropriations and deals that are made, then we in Congress will make more intelligent votes on the bills that come before us than the late night and late hours of the conference committee reports and votes.

BALANCED BUDGET AND NATIONAL DEBT

(Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, if has been 804 days since the angels of debt, led by President Bush and the Republican majority in this House, embarked on the economic plan for our Nation. During that time the national debt has increased by \$1,085,680,723,163.

According to the Web site for the Bureau of Public Debt at the U.S. Department of Treasury, yesterday at 4 o'clock, Eastern Daylight Time, the Nation's outstanding debt was \$6,726,006,109,521.

Furthermore, in fiscal year 2003, interest on our national debt, or the debt tax, is \$277,768,492,816 as of June 30.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for you to schedule a vote on this House floor for a balanced budget amendment to the American Constitution.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 329, I call up the bill (H.R. 2738) to implement the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of H.R. 2738 is as follows:

HR. 2738

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Purposes.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—APPROVAL OF, AND GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO, THE AGREEMENT

Sec. 101. Approval and entry into force of the agreement.

Sec. 102. Relationship of the agreement to United States and State law.

Sec. 103. Consultation and layover provisions for, and effective date of, proclaimed actions.

Sec. 104. Implementing actions in anticipation of entry into force and initial regulations.

Sec. 105. Administration of dispute settlement proceedings.

Sec. 106. Arbitration of claims.

Sec. 107. Effective dates; effect of termination.

TITLE II—CUSTOMS PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Tariff modifications.

Sec. 202. Rules of origin.

Sec. 203. Drawback.

Sec. 204. Customs user fees.

Sec. 205. Disclosure of incorrect information; denial of preferential tariff treatment; false certificates of origin.

Sec. 206. Reliquidation of entries.

Sec. 207. Recordkeeping requirements.

Sec. 208. Enforcement of textile and apparel rules of origin.

Sec. 209. Conforming amendments.

Sec. 210. Regulations.

TITLE III—RELIEF FROM IMPORTS

Sec. 301. Definitions.

Subtitle A—Relief From Imports Benefiting From the Agreement

Sec. 311. Commencing of action for relief.

Sec. 312. Commission action on petition.

Sec. 313. Provision of relief.

Sec. 314. Termination of relief authority.

Sec. 315. Compensation authority.

Sec. 316. Confidential business information.

Subtitle B—Textile and Apparel Safeguard Measures

Sec. 321. Commencement of action for relief.

Sec. 322. Determination and provision of relief.

Sec. 323. Period of relief.

Sec. 324. Articles exempt from relief.

Sec. 325. Rate after termination of import relief.

Sec. 326. Termination of relief authority.

Sec. 327. Compensation authority.

Sec. 328. Business confidential information.

TITLE IV—TEMPORARY ENTRY OF BUSINESS PERSONS

Sec. 401. Nonimmigrant traders and investors.

Sec. 402. Nonimmigrant professionals; labor attestation.

Sec. 403. Labor disputes.

Sec. 404. Conforming amendments.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to approve and implement the Free Trade Agreement between the United States and the Republic of Chile entered into under the authority of section 2103(b) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002;

(2) to strengthen and develop economic relations between the United States and Chile for their mutual benefit;

(3) to establish free trade between the two nations through the reduction and elimination of barriers to trade in goods and services and to investment; and

(4) to lay the foundation for further cooperation to expand and enhance the benefits of such Agreement.